

Message Text

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TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, TU

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S LUNCH FOR GREEK AMBASSADOR

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HOSTED A LUNCH FOR GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS AUGUST 10. ALSO PRESENT WERE COUNSELOR NIMETZ AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST.
2. THE CONVERSATION INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF EFFORTS ON THE HILL TO REACH COMPROMISE LANGUAGE ON THE SENATE AND HOUSE BILL. ALEXANDRAKIS WAS ASSURED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S MAIN CONCERNS WERE BEING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, NAMELY "NON-USE OF FORCE" AND "MILITARY BALANCE". SOME PRELIMINARY DRAFTS ON THE COMPROMISE AMENDMENT WERE BEING
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FLOATED, AND ALL OF THESE DRAFTS CONTAINED LANGUAGE INCLUDING THESE TWO POINTS. WE HOPED VERY MUCH TO SEE SENATE SIMPLE REPEAL APPROACH ADOPTED. ALEXANDRAKIS SAID LATTER WAS OF LESS CONCERN TO HIM; NIMETZ EXPRESSED HOPE HE WOULD SO INDICATE IN HIS CONTACTS WITH CONFEREES.

3. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE US DESIRE

TO SEE AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND FOR MOVEMENT ON THE VAROSHA PROPOSALS. ALEXANDRAKIS SAID THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS DOUBTS ABOUT THE SECURITY COUNCIL APPROACH WHICH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE CONSIDERING.

IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR NICOSIA TO FOLLOW SUCH A COURSE IF THERE HAD BEEN SOME POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS OR NEW PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD THEN CAST THEM AS THE INTRANSIGENT PARTY AND, HENCE, FORCE THEM TO FOREGO THIS APPROACH AND CHOOSE THE NEGOTIATION ROUTE INSTEAD.

4. ALEXANDRAKIS WAS TOLD THAT WE HAD DISCUSSED WITH TURKISH MFA SECGEN ELEKDAG OUR DESIRE TO SEE GREEK REINTEGRATION IN THE NATO MILITARY COMMAND IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE ORDER, STRESSING THAT IT WAS IN TURKEY'S INTERESTS TO HAVE A STRENGTHENED NATO WITH GREECE AS A FULL-FLEDGED PARTNER.

5. THERE WAS A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE AEGEAN DIFFERENCES WITH EMPHASIS ON THE POSITIVE DESCRIPTION BY ELEKDAG OF HIS REACTION BY THE TURKS TO EARLY-JULY TALKS WITH THEODOROPOULOS IN ANKARA. ALEXANDRAKIS WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THE TURKS HAD NOT RULED OUT ULTIMATELY GOING TO SOME INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED FORM OF CONCILIATION. ALSO, NIMETZ REPORTED THAT IN A CONVERSATION WITH ELEKDAG ON THE AEGEAN, ELEKDAG HAD INDICATED THAT

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TURKEY WOULD NOT EXPLOIT THE SENSITIVE POST-EMBARGO SITUATION BY TAKING ANY ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE VIEWED IN GREECE AS PROVOCATIVE.

6. THERE WAS ALSO DISCUSSION OF THE DESIRE OF BOTH SIDES TO WORK TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN US-GREEK RELATIONS. ALEXANDRAKIS POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN CERTAIN UNFORTUNATE EPISODES OVER THE PAST YEAR, SUCH AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS, WHICH HAD CONTRIBUTED TO A SENSE OF UNEASE AND ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING IN GREECE. HE INTIMATED THAT WE MIGHT PAY CLOSER ATTENTION TO SUCH MATTERS IN THE FUTURE AND FULLY GAUGE THEIR POTENTIAL IMPACT ON US-GREEK RELATIONS. HE WAS ASSURED THAT THIS WOULD BE DONE. CHRISTOPHER

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